

Liberals leave E. German coalition

EAST-BERLIN (R) — East Germany's five-party governing coalition failed to survive Tuesday when the small Liberal Party walked out in a fit over the precise timing of German unification due in December. The departure of the Liberals, who command 23 seats in the 400-seat parliament, left Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere's governing majority intact but threatened to disrupt east-West German preparations for unification. "De Maiziere made it impossible for the Liberals to continue in a coalition," Rainer Creutz, head of their parliamentary group, told reporters after truck members met the premier in a last-ditch effort to resolve the impasse. "De Maiziere and his CDU bears responsibility for this through their unwilling stand on the issue of accession (to West Germany) and voting procedures," he said. West German leaders earlier denounced the quarrel in East Germany's first freely elected government as a farce involving amateurs and urged Chancellor Helmut Kohl to bring them to heel to keep the unity train on track (see page 8).

Volume 15 Number 4448

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1990, MUHARRAM 3, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

King receives Iraqi cable

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received a cable from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in reply to the King's congratulatory cable on the occasion of the Islamic new year. President Hussein wished the King continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity.

169 people reinstated

AMMAN (Petra) — In line with the prime minister's directives to reinstate government employees who had been dismissed from their jobs for political reasons, the Civil Service Commission (CSC) has reinstated 169 people, according to CSC officials. The officials said that 25 of these people had refused to go back to their jobs. The officials added that a special committee headed by assistant director-general of the Budget Department and grouping two senior officials from the CSC was studying the cases of those dismissed for political reasons and are preparing recommendations to reinstate them. The officials pointed out that list of the names of people to be reinstated will be issued by the CSC.

JD 360,000 allocated for training projects

AMMAN (Petra) — In accordance with the government's policy to create skilled local labour and help reduce unemployment, the Cabinet Tuesday approved the allocation of JD 305,000 to a project aimed at developing driver training centres in Hashemieh, Aqaba and Irbid. The project will train 590 truck drivers annually. The Cabinet meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, also approved a JD 55,000 allocation to the hotel training centre in Sabah which will train 500 students annually.

Fundamentalists attack Bhutto

LAHORE (AP) — A small religious party has accused Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of "insulting" the Islamic religion, a crime punishable by death or life in prison. The provincial law ministry is considering whether to charge Bhutto, but a decision is not expected for several weeks. The fundamentalist Jamiat-e-Islami lodged two complaints against Bhutto Monday with the Lahore police. Bhutto's party spokesman has disputed the allegations, claiming they are politically motivated. A police official said the complaints were sent to the provincial advocate-general who will decide whether a case can be brought against the prime minister. The accusations against Ms. Bhutto resulted from a statement she reportedly made last Friday to reporters denouncing as "improper and unsuitable" the Muslim punishment of cutting off a person's hand for stealing.

Hassan II meets Algerian opposition

ALGIERS (R) — King Hassan of Morocco, in Algiers for a North African summit, has had unprecedented meetings with opposition leaders including Abbasi Madani of the Islamic movement, the official news agency APS said Tuesday. Madani, whose Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) beat the ruling party in local elections last month, was one of six Algerian party leaders to see King Hassan separately aboard his boat.

Israel gives green signal to VoA

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's national planning board Tuesday reversed its decision to delay construction of a Voice of American (VoA) relay station after U.S. officials renewed pleas for an immediate start of the facility. The board had voted in June to halt building of the project in the desert for a two-year ecological study of bird migrations, which environmentalists said could be disturbed by the transmitter. The U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv issued a statement saying it is "pleased by today's vote..." and looks forward to rapid approval by the government of Israel and early construction of the station.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جordan تابع يومية سلسلة تابع بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية العربية - الرأي

Kaufman holds hostage talks in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — British shadow Foreign Secretary Gerald Kaufman discussed the plight of Western hostages held in Lebanon at a meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa Monday. "I can say to you that after my two hours of talks with the foreign minister that I am sure it was worthwhile my coming here," he told Reuters and Viasnews afterwards. Kaufman said Sharaa made it clear that Syria was anxious that the hostages, who include three Britons, should be freed but he was also "very careful indeed not to provide any hope which could not be fulfilled." Syria, which wields great influence in Lebanon, has played a key role in arranging the release of several Western hostages there. But up to 15 Westerners are still believed to be held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian militants. Kaufman, of Britain's opposition Labour Party, said the question of relations between Britain and Syria came up during his talks with Sharaa but it was not a major issue. Britain broke diplomatic ties with Syria in 1966 after sending Dambach to investigate an attempt to blow up an Israeli airliner flying from London. Syria denied the charge.

Mubarak, Klibi pursue diplomacy in Gulf row

Combined agency dispatches

barrel in the international market.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak flew to Baghdad and on to Kuwait to try to bring the two OPEC neighbours to the negotiating table. He was also expected to visit Saudi Arabia and told Egyptian reporters his mission was to "clear the air in the Arab World and unify Arab ranks."

Western diplomats said Iraq had moved two armoured divisions of several thousand men backed by tanks and missiles close to disputed oil fields on the undefined border with Kuwait.

Iraq renewed a verbal assault on the United States on Tuesday, accusing Washington of inciting Kuwait against Baghdad.

The Iraqi press Monday accused Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, brother of the ruler, of being a U.S. agent.

Kibbi, who arrived in Baghdad Tuesday, spent three days in Kuwait last week but did not come to Baghdad then because Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz was absent in Egypt, league officials said.

In Washington, U.S. administration officials said American forces in the Gulf region had not been put on any special alert, but

the naval exercise with UAE ships was clearly timed to show support for allies in the Gulf.

"Iraq and others know there is no place for coercion and intimidation in a civilised world," State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said. "All disputes should be handled through peaceful means."

U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar said he saw no likelihood either of an Iraqi attack against Kuwait or of United States military intervention in the area.

"I think that both things are totally excluded," he told reporters who questioned him about reports that Iraqi troops were massing near the border with Kuwait and that U.S. forces in the Gulf had been placed on alert.

"I don't see either the Iraqi embarking on any military offensive against Kuwait, nor the Americans intervening in Middle East," he said.

Asked if he thought the situation was containable, he replied: "I think it is."

Apparently alluding to Iraq and Kuwait, he added: "I rely on the wisdom of both parties in order to avoid any escalation of the situation, which I think can be

easily controlled."

Questioned about a possible role for himself or some other U.N. organ in helping reduce tension, Perez de Cuellar said: "I understand that the Egyptians are working on it and I hope that everything will be quiet."

Perez de Cuellar noted that Kuwait's U.N. representative saw him last week "to report to me about the situation" but without asking for any U.N. action.

He said the ambassador brought a letter from Sheikh Sabah outlining charges made against Kuwait by Iraq, and that the same letter was sent to the president of the Security Council, but again without requesting any action.

According to a copy of the letter obtained by Reuters on Monday, Sheikh Sabah rejected as groundless Iraqi charges that Kuwait was responsible for a drop in oil prices by glutting the market, had stolen oil from an Iraqi oilfield and had caused damage to Iraq's economy "tantamount to a military aggression."

Iraq was also said to have charged that Kuwait's alleged action "was premeditated and was

(Continued on page 4)

Israeli gunfire claims life of 18-year-old in W. Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An 18-year-old Palestinian died Tuesday of wounds suffered in an earlier clash with soldiers. It was the first death from Israeli gunfire in a month.

The victim, Mahmud Helal Salame, was shot in the neck July 14 during a clash between soldiers and stone-throwing youths in the West Bank village of Beit Lid, reports said. They said he died in a hospital near Tel Aviv.

An army spokesman confirmed a Palestinian was shot by troops in the village near Tulkarem during the mid-July confrontation.

The last death in a clash with troops was June 25 when a 25-year-old woman was shot to death in Tulkarem. During June, 10 Palestinians were killed in uprisings.

In the past month, the army has adopted a new policy of avoiding confrontations with stone throwers in small villages and crowded refugee camps where many of the deaths in the uprising have occurred.

The policy followed the appointment of Defence Minister Moshe Arens when a new right-wing government was formed June 11 by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

EC envoys deliver economic warning to Israeli leaders

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — European Community (EC) leaders ended their first talks with Israel's new right-wing government Tuesday after telling Israel to move towards Middle East peace if it expects economic cooperation from Europe.

The talks by three EC foreign ministers also produced a sharp debate about Israel's handling of the 31-month Palestinian uprising, Israeli reports said.

But Israeli leaders claimed progress was made in improving strained ties with Europe during the meetings with Foreign Minister David Levy and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

"Lines of communication have been opened between Israel and Europe," Levy told reporters at Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv after the Europeans left.

Levy said earlier that he saw a swift in the European insistence that Israel's only way to make peace was to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "They are ready to accept any idea as long as it shows a chance for the peace process, and they don't only demand talks with the PLO," Levy said on Israel radio

Likud bloc.

Arens has said his policy is to deploy more soldiers along roadways to "protect" Jewish settlers as they travel to and from their settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In the past, Palestinian youths often died in army gunfire when soldiers were confronted with a barrage of stones after they tried to enter remote villages or refugee camps.

Tuesday's death brought to 724 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers and civilians during the 31-month revolt.

Also Tuesday, Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza staged a general strike called by the fundamentalist movement Hamas.

The strike was called to mourn the destruction of Baghdad by Mongol warriors in 1258 A.D. that ended the rule of Islam by the Abbasid Dynasty.

Unknown assailants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip abducted and killed two Arabs Monday, sources and an Israeli news agency said. The background for both killings was unclear.

In the West Bank town of Qalqilya, residents said Ahmed

Qian says U.S. fuels tension

NICOSIA (AP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen criticised the United States Tuesday for interrupting its dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The Israeli news agency Itam said another Palestinian, 23-year-old Islam Al Nijeha, was strangled to death in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah. Itam quoted Arab residents as saying he was not suspected of aiding Israeli forces. The suspension of the United States dialogue with the PLO has led to greater tension in the Middle East. Qian told a press conference at the end of a two-day visit to Cyprus.

The Unified Leadership of the Uprising distanced itself from the attack, Itam said.

Shots were fired at Israeli soldiers at a lookout post in the West Bank's largest city of Nablus, an army spokesman said. No one was injured and the soldiers were searching for gunmen.

Police searched the West Bank for an Israeli Arab abducted at the weekend as he drove past Atil village.

Relatives said Nizar Mohammad Dakka, 28, was yanked from his car by masked youths. Security sources said the abduction was over a family feud.

Qian said following his talks he expected "a large increase in trade, including the launching of a container service between the two countries."

He said joint ventures were also being contemplated, without specifying their type.

Though Cyprus is a small country, its position in the Mediterranean lends itself to reexport operations, Qian added.

"I hope we will be able to increase economic cooperation," he said.

Deafing further with the Middle East, Qian said that despite the decrease of international tension following developments in Eastern Europe, "regrettably in the Middle East there has instead been an emergence of greater tension."

The newspaper Haaretz and Israel radio said a sharp exchange with Levy developed after Poos said that Israel has violated Palestinians' human rights, mentioning both the violence of the uprising and the closure of West Bank universities.

Levy reportedly responded that "nobody is as sensitive to human rights as Israel and that any pressure will only draw the next war closer."

The EC visit was the first major Western probe of the views of the Israeli government formed last month, the most right-wing in its history, and there was no evidence of any shifts in position.

But diplomatic sources said they believed Levy might present new ideas when he sees Secretary of State James Baker in Washington Aug. 9.

Shamir spokesman Avi Pazner said the prime minister repeated Israel's objections to the PLO.

in describing his meeting with the three foreign ministers Monday night.

After the meeting, Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis told a news conference that unless peace efforts resumed "economic and social cooperation will become more difficult" between Israel and Europe.

Israel's trade with Europe — about a third of the country's exports — could be affected when the 12-nation EC becomes a unified market in 1992.

De Michelis, president of the EC council of ministers, said the European Community was willing

to accept any avenue that would produce progress towards peace.

"We are open to examine all possibilities offered by all parties, of course also by the Israeli government.

Levy reportedly responded that "nobody is as sensitive to human rights as Israel and that any pressure will only draw the next war closer."

The EC visit was the first major Western probe of the views of the Israeli government formed last month, the most right-wing in its history, and there was no evidence of any shifts in position.

But diplomatic sources said they believed Levy might present new ideas when he sees Secretary of State James Baker in Washington Aug. 9.

Shamir spokesman Avi Pazner said the prime minister repeated Israel's objections to the PLO.

in describing his meeting with the three foreign ministers Monday night.

After the meeting, Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis told a news conference that unless peace efforts resumed "economic and social cooperation will become more difficult" between Israel and Europe.

Israel's trade with Europe — about a third of the country's exports — could be affected when the 12-nation EC becomes a unified market in 1992.

De Michelis, president of the EC council of ministers, said the European Community was willing

to accept any avenue that would produce progress towards peace.

"We are open to examine all possibilities offered by all parties, of course also by the Israeli government.

Levy reportedly responded that "nobody is as sensitive to human rights as Israel and that any pressure will only draw the next war closer."

The EC visit was the first major Western probe of the views of the Israeli government formed last month, the most right-wing in its history, and there was no evidence of any shifts in position.

But diplomatic sources said they believed Levy might present new ideas when he sees Secretary of State James Baker in Washington Aug. 9.

Shamir spokesman Avi Pazner said the prime minister repeated Israel's objections to the PLO.

in describing his meeting with the three foreign ministers Monday night.

After the meeting, Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis told a news conference that unless peace efforts resumed "economic and social cooperation will become more difficult" between Israel and Europe.

Israel's trade with Europe — about a third of the country's exports — could be affected when the 12-nation EC becomes a unified market in 1992.

De Michelis, president of the EC council of ministers, said the European Community was willing

to accept any avenue that would produce progress towards peace.

"We are open to examine all possibilities offered by all parties, of course also by the Israeli government.

Levy reportedly responded that "nobody is as sensitive to human rights as Israel and that any pressure will only draw the next war closer."

The EC visit was the first major Western probe of the views of the Israeli government formed last month, the most right-wing in its history, and there was no evidence of any shifts in position.

But diplomatic sources said they believed Levy might present new ideas when he sees Secretary of State James Baker in Washington Aug. 9.

Shamir spokesman Avi Pazner said the prime minister repeated Israel's objections to the PLO.

in describing his meeting with the three foreign ministers Monday night.

After the meeting, Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis told a news conference that unless peace efforts resumed "economic and social cooperation will become more difficult" between Israel and Europe.

Israel's trade with Europe — about a third of the country's exports — could be affected when the 12-nation EC becomes a unified market in 1992.

De Michelis, president of the EC council of ministers, said the European Community was willing</

Hizbullah stands firm in Lebanese village

NABATTIYEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Pro-Iranian radicals Tuesday repulsed rival Shi'ites who tried to drive them from a South Lebanon village in a day of hand-to-hand fighting in which 23 people were killed.

Bodies littered the streets of the village of Jarjoun and black smoke billowed overhead as a storm of shell and rocket fire swept the mountainous ridge of Iqlim Al Tonfah, some 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

Security sources said 55 people were wounded in 12 hours of combat between Tehran-inspired Hizbullah fighters and militiamen of the Syrian-backed Amal and its leftist allies.

The casualties took the toll to 129 killed and 245 wounded since Hizbullah seized Jarjoun nine days ago, sparking repeated assaults by Palestinian-backed Amal forces to drive Hizbullah out and prevent it extending its territory.

Most of Jarjoun's 7,000 population fled when the fighting erupted.

About 300 Amal fighters launched a three-pronged attack on Jarjoun at dawn Tuesday and advanced some 200 metres towards the southern approach of the village in fierce hand-to-hand fighting.

The security sources said Hizbullah guerrillas, who believe death in battle means a place in heaven, contested every inch of territory and eventually forced Amal to give up the ground it had gained.

Despite the setback, an Amal field commander in the market town of Nabatiyeh told Reuters: "We are determined to recapture Jarjoun at any cost."

The active Baathist intervention on Amal's side suggests the Syrian government wants to curb Iran's growing influence through Hizbullah's coreligionists in Lebanon.

The Syrians have 40,000 troops stationed in northern, eastern and central Lebanon under a 1976 Arab League mandate to smother Lebanon's civil war, now in its 16th year.

But the Syrian army has refrained from entering South Lebanon to avert a collision with Israel. Israel considers South Lebanon a "red line" across which it would not tolerate Syrian military presence.

The Lebanese Baath Party, which has a 1,500-strong militia

U.S. upset over Arab boycott moves

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department Tuesday sharply criticised a move by the Arab League to punish companies and groups that help Jews emigrate from the Soviet Union to Israel.

But Clovis Maksoud, the league's representative in Washington, insisted the boycotts are legitimate as long as Israel and the Arabs are not at peace.

Maksoud, in an interview, also criticised the U.S. government for not declaring Jewish settlements on the West Bank and in Gaza illegal.

The Arab countries, meeting last week in Tunis, expressed concern about the flow of Jews to Israel from the Soviet Union, now at an all-time high. According to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, 49,434 of the 49,839 Jews who left the Soviet Union in the first six months of the year went to Israel.

The Arab League foreign ministers directed the league's boycott office to look into extending its boycott of companies that do business with Israel to also punish companies and institutions assisting Soviet Jews to emigrate there.

The U.S. State Department said it opposes "settlement activities," but did not brand as illegal the Jewish settlements.

Otherwise, the department's statement strongly condemned any boycott.

The position of the United States against Arab boycott activity is firm and unyielding," it said. "...The Arabs should end their boycott and end their challenge to Israel's legitimacy."

The statement, distributed by spokeswoman Margaret D. Tuwiler, added: "Now is not the time for provocative actions or rhetoric which will only exacerbate the situation."

The State Department again affirmed the right of all Soviet citizens to leave and live in Israel or any other country. "The United States supports this right absolutely and welcomes the assistance of private and commercial institutions and organisations which assist in the realisation of this right," the statement said.

Maksoud responded that "as long as state of war, a state of belligerency, has not ended, to that extent the boycott remains a legitimate instrument."



An offshoot of the wave of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel is the displacement of Israelis from apartments because of higher rents which the new government-aided new arrivals can afford. Photo shows two of such displaced families.

Soviet wave prompts a new 'who is a Jew?' debate

By Sergei Shargorodsky

The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — Faced with a growing Soviet Jewish immigration wave, Israeli officials are engaged in a fresh "who is a Jew?" debate over whether immigration laws should be changed to curb the influx.

The question of amending the "law of return," which grants every Jew automatic Israeli citizenship, was argued on radio broadcasts Monday and in newspapers. The anger expressed was akin to that of American Jews during a similar debate over the last two years.

Favouring a change are the chairman of parliament's immigration committee, Michael Kleiner of the ruling right-wing Likud bloc, along with Interior Minister Arye Dery and Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz, both from ultra-orthodox parties.

Against it are such influential Likud figures as Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, head of the government's immigration committee, and legislator Uriel Lynn.

Sharon reportedly told the cabinet Sunday he will oppose any changes because "we are dealing with an emergency situation with Jews running from the Soviet Union ... what we must do is open the gates of the 'homeland' to the Jewish people."

Kleiner claims immigration laws are exploited by non-Jews and seeks to change a 1970 amendment to the law of return adopted in 1950.

The amendment passes the right of automatic citizenship to the child, grandchild or spouse of a Jew, as well as the spouse of his child or grandchild — those defined as Jews in Nazi Germany.

Kleiner says these rules would entitle at least five million Soviet "non-Jews" to Israeli citizenship

and immigration benefits. Israel cannot afford to take them, he says.

So Kleiner wants to exclude descendants of Jewish grandfathers, unless the family arrives with the grandfather.

"If this really becomes a trend and millions of non-Jews use their Jewish grandfather to escape from the Soviet Union, this will endanger the Jewish nature of Israel," Kleiner said in an interview last week.

Lynn sharply attacked Kleiner Monday, saying his ideas were only designed to win Kleiner popularity among "weak circles" angry about immigration.

"This change may divide families and create panic and anxiety among potential immigrants ... it has elements of racism and would present our country as racist," Lynn said in an interview.

He said Kleiner's proposal effectively means that "the group once eliminated by the Nazis ... what do we tell these people, that we don't give them protection?"

Lynn said the "law of return" is based on "a very clear idea" that all Jews who suffered Nazi persecution should be defined as Jews in Israel. "This has nothing to do with the halacha," Lynn added, referring to traditional Jewish law.

The halacha names as a Jew only one who is born to a Jewish mother.

In the controversy known as "who is a Jew?" Israel's orthodox establishment has long fought to change the law of return to follow the halacha and exclude non-orthodox converts. This was the point that angered U.S. Jews, many of whom belong to the conservative or reform branches of Judaism.

Dery, an ultra-orthodox who last year refused to comply with a

supreme court order to recognise non-orthodox conversions, now backs Kleiner.

He called in a statement released Monday that the problem is not linked to halacha.

"The question is a national one: should the country, within the framework of its limited resources, grant absorption rights to such a long list of beneficiaries?" Dery said.

More than 1.2 million Soviets have requested visa applications as Jews, according to the quasi-government Jewish Agency.

Some officials are worried that the Soviet influx, which has reached more than 63,000 since 1989 and is expected to total 150,000 this year, would lead to a chaos. Social services are overloaded and a housing shortage is fast developing.

For the orthodox, the mostly secular Soviet immigration is a threat since it may deprive them of their traditional political power.

The orthodox ministers thus began to flash numbers, saying up to 25 per cent or 30 per cent of the immigrants may be non-Jews.

Soviet Jews, quoted in Israeli newspapers, also are getting into the debate.

"The subject of immigration of non-Jews is really a difficult problem," Eugene Sankholtzky, head of the Jewish Culture Club in Bakur, told the Israeli daily Haaretz. "We know that non-Jews are buying documents that they are Jewish ... and we also have the widespread problem of mixed marriages."

But Sankholtzky said requiring grandfathers to come to Israel could be unfair to some immigrants "because of the biological reason that their grandparents are no longer alive and they have no other proof that they are Jewish."

Palestinian activist vows armed struggle

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

— A Palestinian claiming to be a commander of a PLO-linked faction in the West Bank has said his group and others will take up firearms against Israel if peace efforts fail to produce results.

"The Masked Lion, the Black Panther, the Red Eagle and other groups were established to go to armed struggle if peaceful means failed," the armed man masked with a headress told the international television news agency Viznews in an interview broadcast Monday.

The militant group he named are linked with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the occupied territories and have on occasion had armed clashes with Israeli troops.

Palestinians fighting the 31-month-old uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied territories have confronted troops primarily with stones and petrol bombs.

Speaking from a hideout, the pistol-toting man said his group, "the Masked Lion," an affiliate of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, as well as other groups still adhered to a PLO ban on firearms in the revolt.

"Though little known, the "Masked Lion" has taken credit for killing of at least six Arabs in the Ramallah area on suspicion of being Israeli informers. Its former commander was shot and captured during a raid by Israeli forces in the West Bank town of Al Bireh."

Dressed in army fatigues, the masked man said his group would kill Arabs only if they are found to have sold land to Israel, killed or attempted to kill nationalistic, or if they recruited other Arabs to work for Israeli forces.

"We first try to talk collaborators out of what they are doing. If they do not listen, we threaten and then beat them. We carry out execution as a last resort," he said.

He asserted that suspected informers are forced to record a verbal confession before they are shot or stabbed to death in remote areas.

At least 223 Arabs have been killed by Palestinian activists since the outbreak of the revolt in December 1987.

Rafsanjani hits back at radicals

NICOSIA (AP) — In an attack

on radical opponents and reiterating his plans to liberalise Iran's economy, President Hashemi Rafsanjani has urged his people to reject "leftist, ignorant slogans."

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Rafsanjani as saying "Islam has never wanted people to live in confinement, and those who say the people accept poverty, ignorance and infirmity, do not speak the truth."

"Leftist, ignorant slogans should not be accepted," he added.

Rafsanjani, leader of a so-called pragmatic camp, advocates a tempering of the zealous 1979 Islamic revolution in favour of a moderate foreign policy, a more laissez faire economy, and post-war reconstruction.

His camp has been locked in a naked power struggle with radicals led by former Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi.

The hardliners call for an isolationist foreign policy and a centralised economy. They believe the people should suffer hardships to strengthen the revolution, and accuse Rafsanjani of abandoning the ideals of the revolution dictated by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Rafsanjani's attack Monday was aimed at remarks made by Mohtashemi Wednesday in the radical-dominated parliament.

Mohtashemi, who won the powerful Tehran seat in the 270-member parliament last year after he was dumped from Rafsanjani's cabinet, said Wednesday that a truly Islamic economy should be totally centralised.

He also attacked Rafsanjani's attempts to seek normal international relations, and criticised a decision by the Assembly of Experts to downgrade the criteria for membership of the high-ranking body.

The English-language Tehran Times, which is close to the government, Monday openly attacked Mohtashemi's remarks.

"It is not clear on what grounds one can interpret the Islamic economy as identical with a fully state-controlled economy," the paper said.

In an uncharacteristically vehement attack, the paper added that "support for the now moribund socialist and full-state-run economy is not only a move to weaken the government and the president's economic policies but an attempt to force the Islamic republic into a deadlock and ultimately cause it to crash."

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price for £1 per kg.

Apples 700/600

Apples (green) 600/500

Bacon (Musketeer) 350/300

Bacon (Pork) 200/150

Carrots 200/150

Cauliflower 200/150

Corn 150/100

Cucumbers (large) 150/100

Cucumbers (small) 160/120

Eggs 150/100

Figs 800/700

Garlic 100/90

Grapes 300/250

Lemons 300/250

Mallow 90/40

Marrow (large) 100/50

Marrow (small) 100/50

Onion (dry) 200/150

Onion (green) 200/150

Peaches (hot) 500/550

Pepper (hot) 180/120

Pepper (sweet) 160/120

Potato 200/150

Radicchio 150/100

Salad 200/150

Sweet melon 300/250

Tomatoes 120/90

Watercress 90/50

Ben Ali ponders next move in democratisation

By Jonathan Wright
Reuters

TUNIS — Tunisia's President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali is pondering the next step towards the democracy he promised his country but both leftist and rightist opponents accuse him of dragging his feet.

After free and fair local elections in neighbouring Algeria last month, and freedom sweeping Eastern Europe, his progress looks increasingly modest, diplomats and political sources say.

The president came to power in November 1987 with a pledge to introduce a Western-style multi-party system. Opponents say little has changed since the days of President Habib Bourguiba, when Tunisia was one-party state.

Ben Ali's Democratic Constitutional Rally (RCD) party holds all the seats in parliament. In local elections on June 10, boycotted by the

Ben Ali's defenders say he

has to move slowly because if he allowed a political free-for-all, the Islamic right, organised around the unrecognised Nahda Movement, could come to power and restore authoritarian rule.

Candidates backed by the Nahda won 13 per cent of the popular vote in parliamentary elections in April 1989, far more than any other opposition group. RCD sources say it is clearly the second political force in the country of 7.6 million people.

Ben Ali, in an interview with West German radio last week, dismissed the Nahda, saying it was not part of the political equation because it had no legal status.

Mohamed Moada, leader of the recognised opposition, said in an interview last week the government was mistaken in believing it could pick and choose participants in a multi-party system.

"Those who advocate not

Home News

Jordan University collects manuscripts

AMMAN (Petra) — The Documentation and Manuscripts Centre at the University of Jordan is currently involved in collecting photocopies of 7,200 Arab manuscripts found at the National Library in Paris at an expected overall cost of 1.5 million French francs, according to an announcement by Dr. Mohammad Adham Al Bakheit, the university's vice-president.

He said that the centre has been raising money to cover the cost of this important project from various organizations, countries and individuals.

"So far the centre has raised JD 21,000 in addition to half a million French francs, but pledges for further donations were made by national companies and institutions," he said.

According to Bakheit, the centre collected half a million French francs from Saleh Abdullah Kamel from Saudi Arabia, JD 5,000 from the Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee, JD 2,500 from a group of Jordanian ADAs, JD 4,000 from the Jordans.



A drug-sniffing dog at work at Queen Alia International Airport (Petra photo)

2.1-kg heroin haul sniffed out

AMMAN (J.T.) — Police at Queen Alia International Airport seized 2.1 kilograms of heroin hidden in a secret part of a handbag carried by a non-Jordanian Arab about to board a flight to Montreal.

Colonel Ahmad Al Shamaileh, director of the airport's security unit, said the police used sniffing dogs as it would have been more difficult to find the illicit merchandise otherwise.

The man whose identity was not revealed, had been under police suspicion ever since he had crossed into Jordan from Syria at Ramtha border post and had

been under constant police surveillance over the past week," Shamaileh said.

He said that police moved in to detain the man only after he had completed all formalities to board the plane. The man is now being interrogated, Shamaileh added.

Last May airborne forces and speedboats seized 690 kilograms of hashish with a street value of JD 700,000 and arrested an undisclosed number of Jordanians as well as other Arab nationals in two separate operations.

The first was in the waters of the Gulf of Aqaba, where anti-drug forces seized 350 kilograms of hashish, the second operation took place in the north east of the country near the border with Syria, where the border police and border patrols seized 340 kilograms of hashish of Lebanese origin. At least 10 people were arrested in the second operation.

More than 150 people from Jordan and other Arab states have been arrested in over eight months in what police authorities described as a stepped-up anti-narcotics campaign to stem drug trafficking in the Kingdom.

The first was in the waters of

Jordan, Canada agree to expand air services

AMMAN (J.T.) — Canada and Jordan have concluded an expanded air transport agreement providing for cooperation in air services between the two countries. The agreement was announced by Canada's Secretary of State Joe Clark and Minister of Transport Doug Lewis.

He said that the municipality relies on its own resources to finance different development schemes and municipal services.

This year, he said, the municipality has a total budget of JD 5.2 million which will be spent on such projects and improvements especially roads and streets.

between Canada and Jordan which have grown substantially since the visit to Canada by His Majesty King Hussein in October last year," Clark said upon announcing the agreement.

The agreement will enable Royal Jordanian (RJ) the national airline to serve Toronto in addition to the existing right to serve Montreal.

RJ plans to extend its existing services between Amman and Montreal to Toronto in the spring of 1991, according to the announcement.

In the meantime, it said, RJ services to Canada will be operated jointly with Air Canada.

RJ started to fly twice a week to Montreal in July 1989 and the new deal is seen as an expansion to allow RJ planes to land in Toronto as well during their flights to Canada.

The agreement, which was signed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director Mahmoud Balqaz and Canadian officials, also provides for improved flexibility for an eventual Air Canada service to Amman.

In the meantime, it said, RJ services to Canada will be operated jointly with Air Canada.

RJ started to fly twice a week to Montreal in July 1989 and the new deal is seen as an expansion to allow RJ planes to land in Toronto as well during their flights to Canada.

Soviet parliamentarians seek to allay Arab fears

Soviet Union plans to pass law on immigration

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A delegation of Soviet parliamentarians said Tuesday that they were well aware of the Arab concern over the influx of Jews into Israeli occupied Arab lands and that the Soviet government planned to pass legislation which would allow Soviet emigres to return to the Soviet Union if they wished.

"In September we plan to pass a new law which would allow emigres to return home if they wished," Dmitri Venediktov told journalists during a press conference Tuesday.

The move to change the law would change the status of emigres significantly, since those who emigrated were previously not allowed to return, the Soviet parliamentarian explained.

A delegation of three parliamentarians ended a three-day visit to Jordan after meeting with members of the Jordanian legislative body as well as senior Jordanian government officials.

The group told reporters that the new law, expected to be passed in September would also allow Soviet emigres to

keep their Soviet nationality.

"We understand Arab fears over the issue of possible settlement of more Jews in the occupied territories and we want to reiterate President Gorbachev's statement via the measures that the Soviet Union is willing to take if Soviet Jewish emigres settle in the West Bank and Gaza," said Valentin Tetienov, another member of the Soviet delegation.

The Soviet president had made statements last month threatening to halt the flow of Soviet Jews to Israel unless Israel made assurances that the new immigrants would not be settled in the occupied territories.

Members of the delegation said that the Soviet Union "could not but allow emigres to leave the Soviet Union, because the country was bound to respect the right of the individual to travel wherever he or she wanted."

Members of the delegation said that they did not approve of the violation of the "human rights of the Palestinians by Israelis or Jewish immigrants."

Asked if they would support, or at least not condemn, armed resistance to the settle-

ment of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories, the parliamentarians said that they did not approve of a military solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Tetienov called the Arab-Israeli conflict the "oldest, most difficult and most dangerous world conflict" and said that it could only be solved by diplomatic measures and pressure by Arab countries, Western European countries as well as the United States and Soviet Union.

"After several experiences with military solutions in several cases, including Hungary in 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Afghanistan, we recommend that the solution to the conflict in the Middle East be brought about through the use of diplomacy and other 'peaceful' methods," Tetienov said.

Mohammad Youssouf, another member of the delegation, said that the possibilities for trade and commercial cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Arab World were "endless."

"Once the Soviet Union implements its market economy plan, cooperation in the fields of cultural exchange, tourism and trade are literally limitless," Youssouf said.

Jordan, Libya to strengthen cooperation in health care

AMMAN (J.T.) — A team of officials from the Ministry of Health in Libya is due here Wednesday to conclude contracts with Jordanian specialists to work in Libyan hospitals and health centres.

The Ministry of Health here called on all concerned specialists to contact the Libyan mission in the coming three days to arrange for their employment.

The Health Ministry in Amman had concluded a deal with the Libyan health authorities in 1988 to promote bilateral cooperation in health fields and to increase the exchange of expertise.

Cooperation under the deal also covers twinning hospitals in the two countries, providing training for teams from Libya and

Jordan at health institutions in either country and the exchange of visits by university medical staff as well as cooperation in the pharmaceutical industries.

According to the Health Ministry, a total of 70 Jordanian physicians are already employed in Libyan health centres and hospitals.

Meeting tackles Islamic culture, education

AMMAN (Petra) — An Islamic educational conference opened in Amman Tuesday with the participation of 150 Muslim scholars from around the Islamic World.

A total of 30 working papers dealing with Islamic culture, Islamic education and the role of Islamic research work will be reviewed by delegations from Jordan and seven Arab and foreign countries, according to Ishaq Al Farhan chairman of a committee that prepared for the meetings.

"This conference is one link in a long chain of efforts to promote Islamic education," Farhan said before the meetings started.

"The conference will focus attention on research work in Islamic culture, review literature on Islamic education and the basic principles in Islamic education to benefit contemporary societies," Farhan said.

"The participants shoulder a serious responsibility in presenting the present and future generations with a model educational pattern that can help Islamic societies overcome various challenges and problems," he added.

"The delegates will seek to apply sound Islamic theories in educational institutions following the Islamic awakening which has now engulfed many Arab and Islamic nations," Farhan said.

"A proposal for establishing a data bank to provide information on Islamic education will be discussed," he added.

Other speakers included Dr. Taha Jaber from the World Islamic Cultural Institute in Washington, Dr. Awad Khalefah, president of Mutu University and Dr. Ali Mahfuz, Yarmouk University president.

According to Farhan, the following countries have sent scholars to take part in the four-day meetings which were sponsored by Yarmouk and Mutu universities in cooperation with other Islamic organizations: Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Iraq, the United Kingdom, the United States, Turkey and Yemen.

A TASTE of the USA

TO DAY... TOMORROW.

Come... Enjoy the taste of America

wide variety of products that will sizzle your appetite

FREE

SAFEWAY INTERNATIONAL

Khalaf Stores Jabel Luweibdeh
Grand Supermarket Um-Samaq
Al Wad Supermarket Um-Otheiba

Agents Lalita Trading Est. Tel. 684261

YAMADA GRAPHICS

Saeed Al Hajiri's Rothmans Ford Bronco

Desert raid — an endurance test

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The 1990 desert challenge is viewed as the toughest form of car rallying. The third round in the Middle East championship will be held in Jordan on July 26 and 27.

The 'Jordan Cross Country raid', one of the motorists' activity, is mainly a daring, adventurous act. According to a press officer, "the 'raid' takes places within the boundaries of one country on any type of rough terrain so the cars are specifically designed for running on such roads."

In a press conference held

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

Open studio and workshop for artist Samaa Zara displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).

Plastic art exhibition by Radwa and Ruba Haddad at the Housing Bank Complex hall.

Exhibition of paintings by ten Iraqi artists at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery — tel. No. 639914.

Exhibition of paintings depicting Arabian and other horses by Hani Baya at the Philadelphia Hotel.

Comprehensive Islamic book exhibition at Yarmouk University.

JERASH FESTIVAL

Concerts by the Jordan Armed Forces Band (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.), a local folk troupe (7:00 - 8:00) an Indian folk troupe (8:30 - 9:30 p.m.) at the Forum.

Concert by Al Faleha singing troupe at the South Theatre — 8:30 p.m.

Play for children entitled "Claderville" at Artemis Steps — 7:30 p.m.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جريدة الأردنية المستقلة العربية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 6617171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Gulf crisis awaits an Arab solution

THE dispute between Iraq and Kuwait should find an Arab solution urgently. When the cards are stacked so heavily against the Arab Order from all sides, every effort must be exerted to defuse the situation at source level and in the shortest possible time. Iraq and Kuwait enjoy special common interests and in times of crisis and danger in the recent past they stood by one another in an exemplary brotherly manner. Surely brothers in times of need will always be friends under normal conditions. It is therefore most comforting that Arab efforts have been initiated right from the beginning of the tension between Iraq and Kuwait to defuse the crisis in the shortest possible time. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's trip of peace to Baghdad and Kuwait is only part of the ongoing Arab efforts both declared and discreet. The aim of these Arab initiatives must be to convene a meeting between the leaders of Kuwait and Iraq as soon as possible. If that objective fails, then an Arab summit needs to be convened on an emergency basis to deal with the crisis in the most positive and lasting manner. In any case, Arab differences over oil production need not be left to simmer for too long and OPEC meetings are not the place or time to iron out such differences. An Arab OPEC meeting must be institutionalised and resorted to as a prelude to all general OPEC meetings so that Arab oil producing countries would come to them united over a common strategy. Iraq has been singled out these days as a target of Western campaigns because it is emerging as a powerful Arab force. All efforts to give such designs an opportunity to strike at Iraq should be thwarted. Kuwait's emir and Iraq's president should sit together on their common border in an act of exemplary responsibility and show of unity for the benefit of all the Arab people.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily on Tuesday paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to defuse tension in the Gulf and end the Kuwaiti-Iraqi row over oil production. The paper said that no one can deny that Iraq is now exposed to a hostile campaign designed to stop that country from acquiring means for development and progress. Iraq as well as Kuwait, said the paper, is facing a conspiracy whose signs began to emerge from the first moment of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti row over oil production, with hostile forces offering to provide assistance to one Arab state against the other, the paper noted. The Jordanian leadership is fully aware of the dangers posed to the Arab World and is characterised with wisdom and skill to help solve this passing dark cloud in the Arab nation's atmosphere, the paper continued. King Hussein enjoys special respect and credibility in the Arab world, and therefore his moves to end the dispute is bound to end all differences and restore full harmony among Arab countries, the paper added. Arab oil, the paper pointed out, is the property of all Arabs of different generations; and it is incumbent upon the Arab leaderships to move fast and contain any problem that could mar inter-Arab relations and expose Arab countries' security to danger. The paper said that the enemies of the Arab nation have ambitious designs and hope through conspiracies to take over Arab wealth — a plot that can and should be thwarted through vigilance and awareness on the part of the Arab leaders.

Writing in Al Ra'i daily columnist Khaled Mahadin criticises local newspapers which publish parliament members' speeches in full because such action, he notes, can only complicate matters over issues discussed in the Lower House. We know of no country in the developed or the developing worlds where the local press publishes full addresses delivered in parliament, says the writer. This is not a call for the press to throw a dark blanket on deliberations in the Lower House because the people have the right to know the facts, but it is rather a call for the press to avoid publishing statements which do not promote the cause of democracy in any form, and can by no means serve the interests of the deputies themselves, Mahadin notes. What the press should do, he suggests, is to publish only those statements which are connected with the subject being discussed and the problem being tackled for the sake of involving the public in finding solutions. He says the press should not open the way for sentiments and impulsive speeches but rather maintain open minds and hearts for what is beneficial for the people, and can serve the best interests of the nation. The press and the journalists he says seek to see democratic life unaffected by passions and selfish interests. Mahadin suggests that the press stop publishing the deputies' full speeches and calls on parliament members to take a proper decision about this subject at a parliament meeting.

Al Dostour daily Tuesday said King Hussein's visit to Alexandria Monday and his talks with President Mubarak were part of Jordan's ongoing efforts to contain the row between Iraq and Kuwait over oil issues. Jordan is fully aware of the dangers posed to the Arab countries at this critical stage, and realises the danger inherent in any dispute between Arab countries, and is keen on maintaining Arab solidarity and unity of Arab ranks.

Economic Forum

Banking reform starts in earnest

By Dr. Abdalla Makti

TWO weeks ago we wrote in this column that the monetary policy would be entering a new phase after it had won the battle of stabilising the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar. The new phase, we suggested, would have the reforming of the banking system as its major issue. The last sentence of that column said that "the banking reform is poised for a takeoff." The next day, the package of measures relating to the liquidation of Petra Bank and to Jordan Gulf Bank and Jordan Syrian Bank were announced; the anticipated reform did kick off. One week earlier, the much-respected Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, Dr. M.S. Nabulsi, told me that reform will be accomplished over one full year. In a meeting he had with the general managers of the commercial banks and financial

companies last Sunday, Dr. Nabulsi shortened the period to six months. Most probably, the governor has been encouraged by the response to the long-conceived and rather delayed decision of putting Petra Bank under liquidation. And plausibly the governor's plans relating to banking reform were boosted by the support he got from very high ranks and from an added sense of urgency given to this issue, which obtained from a realisation that the expediting of reform will bolster the momentum that the economic "revival" is gaining. Actually, a strong sense of optimism is blowing into the circles of economic policy-makers these days: the only snag is the windy political arena. The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) is focusing its attention on some ten banking institutions including Petra Bank and one specialised credit institution. Banking troubles are only normal phenomena during economic recessions which strike at the heels of periods of expansion mainly as a result of loans turning into bad debts. According to an extensive investigation published by Business Week (July 16, 1990), the U.S. banks "are writing off some \$20 billion in various loans annually—some five times the amount at the dawn of the 1980s" and "their risky loans to commercial real estate, to developing countries and to debt-heavy companies total \$600 billion, or 2.5 times stockholder's equity and loan-loss reserves at the banks." Banking reform does not prove anything exceptional or abnormal. It is rather the norm, is good to all parties; the economy, the

customers and shareholders, and must be welcome. The severity of the Petra Bank case indicates that no banking reform in Jordan would have been meaningful or productive if it did not start from it.

But banking reform is not the only issue that boils around. There is a strong interest in putting a "liberal face" on the monetary policy. Now it will be re-evaluated that the measure which led to the unveiling of the Petra Bank so-called irregularities was the raising of the legal reserve on the foreign exchange deposits of the commercial banks to the maximum level allowable, that is 35 per cent. Well, that result was a by-product because the measure aimed basically at raising some foreign exchange for a central bank whose reserves had been completely de-

pleted at the time. At present, the reserves of (CBJ) have risen to a post-crisis record of \$600 million and the dinar is "withstanding" on its own so the CBJ is willing to cut that legal reserve down to 30 per cent, for instance, as a point of departure for that liberalisation. A further 5 per cent cut may be made provided the "freed" proceeds be used for purchasing foreign currency denominated bonds to be issued by CBJ (on behalf of the Treasury, of course) some time later.

In the new phase, CBJ is mandating itself to erase the traces of the economic crisis, at least in the monetary field. Some past measures have really become redundant. Take, for example, the banning of

pledging foreign exchange deposits as collaterals for loans and credit facilities which was designed to prevent speculation against dinar.

This was done by taking a loan and using it to buy foreign currencies which were deposited with the lending bank as a guarantee for that loan. If the confidence in the dinar is shaky, this process may go on for ever and weaken the dinar further which in turn invites more flight to foreign currencies and so on and so forth. Now that the dinar is firm, this ban should be lifted because a foreign exchange deposit is actually an excellent guarantee which should not be denied to our banks. However, let us wait and see what liberalisation measures CBJ has for us over the next six months.

Mideast tension highlights Japan's need for Arab oil

By Hiroe Ikemura
Reuter

TOKYO — Mounting tension between Iraq and Kuwait has re-ignited concern that Japan is too dependent on the politically volatile Middle East for its vital energy supply, industry analysts said.

Japan imports virtually all its oil, with 70 per cent coming from the Middle East.

"While chances are slim that tensions will develop into an armed conflict, the Japanese government is likely to continue its efforts to end its reliance on oil," said Naoshi Kojima, chief economist at the Institute of Energy Economics (IEE).

According to Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Japan's dependence on oil will drop to 46 per cent of total energy needs by 2010 from 57.3 per cent in 1988. MITI envisions higher reliance on nuclear power.

However, strong local opposition to nuclear power has boosted Japan's dependence on oil, and on oil from the Middle East in particular, analysts said.

"Even if oil prices rise drastically, Japan won't easily be able to reduce dependence on Middle East oil because of its energy structure," said Masatoshi Shioiri, an oil analyst at UBS Phillips and Drew International Ltd.

Japan lacks the nuclear power plants and has yet to develop substantial alternative energy sources to wean itself away from

heavy dependence on oil, analysts said.

Kuwait was Japan's fourth largest supplier of oil in June, after Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Indonesia.

"Iraq is unpredictable," said a MITI official. "But I don't think Iraq will take military action against Kuwait because it doesn't want to isolate itself. Iraq needs international aid to recover from the Iran-Iraq war."

Iraq's main aim is to boost oil prices, not to launch a costly war with Kuwait, said Tsutomu Toichi, chief economist at the Institute of Energy Economics (IEE).

Toichi, who had predicted that OPEC's basket price of oil would recover to \$18 a barrel in the fourth quarter, now sees prices hitting that level by August or September because of Iraqi pressure on Kuwait and UAE not to boost output, he said.

The basket price — the average spot price of seven types of crude oil — was \$16.25 a barrel in the week ending July 20.

The role that Japan can play to solve Middle East conflicts is very limited," Toichi added. "Japan is facing instability, but it can only take passive measures, such as increasing oil stockpiles and developing alternative energy sources."

An OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) meeting in Geneva this week could relieve Iraq-Kuwait tensions somewhat, but disputes be-

tween the two countries are likely to continue to flare up, UBS's Shioiri said.

Japan is strengthening ties with the Middle East on several fronts, including economically, but it is hard to take political action," said the MITI official.

Japan's lack of political clout could serve in its favour, some analysts and government officials said.

Unlike the politically powerful United States, which is often type-cast as the villain by some Middle Eastern countries, Japan is in less danger of falling victim to an oil embargo because of its lack of influence in the region, they said.

"Japan is not really vulnerable to Middle East conflicts. Unless all oil supplies from the Middle East stop, Japan will be able to secure some oil," the MITI official said.

Some Japanese companies have recently strengthened ties with Saudi Arabia in a bid to diversify oil sources from the Middle East, analysts said.

Japanese government and industry officials this year have frequently visited Saudi Arabia, which surpassed the UAE in April as Japan's largest supplier of oil, analysts said.

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's planned trip to the Middle East next month, including visiting Saudi Arabia, underlines the high priority Japan places on diplomatic ties with oil-producing countries in the region, analysts said.

Destabilisation due to water

(Continued from page 1)

Wahda project was cost inefficient and that the Yarmouk water could be stored more economically in Lake Tibar.

According to Salameh, Israel would be able to recycle approximately 250 million cubic metres of water each year through wastewater treatment facilities. He said recycling could compensate for the over use of existing resources, but he added that it would not alleviate Israel's anticipated water needs by the year 2000.

There is widespread belief among Middle Eastern water experts that Israel, through its occupation of South Lebanon, is diverting water from the Litani River, which lies entirely within Lebanon's territory. Therefore, he continued, "even with 400 million cubic metres from the Litani and with recycling, that would still not be enough water to cover Israel's needs by the year 2000."

The water expert predicted Israel will be forced to either curtail agricultural water use or derive water from another source, possibly the desalination of sea water, in order to meet its needs. He said existing desalination technology is very costly, at about \$2 per cubic metre of water. Other sources, however, put the cost at suitable locations at just over \$1 per cubic metre.

(Continued from page 1)

people who are working there," he has reason to believe they are true.

Israel would have access to about 400 million of the river's annual flow of 730 million cubic metres, Salameh said, because the Litani is dammed north of the "security zone" which Israel occupies in South Lebanon.

Therefore, he continued, "even with 400 million cubic metres from the Litani and with recycling, that would still not be enough water to cover Israel's needs by the year 2000."

The water expert predicted Israel will be forced to either curtail agricultural water use or derive water from another source, possibly the desalination of sea water, in order to meet its needs. He said existing desalination technology is very costly, at about \$2 per cubic metre of water. Other sources, however, put the cost at suitable locations at just over \$1 per cubic metre.

Arab diplomacy in Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

jointly planned with foreign partners; and that Kuwait was lagging in its response to efforts to resolve the border question and was "gradually and systematically advancing into Iraqi territory and setting up installations on it."

Sheikh Sabah said in his letter that, "in spite of Iraq's intentions to continue escalating a media campaign," Kuwait's policy was based on neighbourliness, peaceful coexistence and recourse to dialogue in solving outstanding problems between the two countries.

Salami's Arab minister, Hisham Nazer, said earlier that he also favoured higher prices. But delegates said \$25 was too high a target for the world's biggest exporter.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Features

Japanese woman recalls pain of 'golden lotus'

By Mitya New
Reuters

HONG KONG — Leung Suet-Chun is confined to a wheelchair, her deformed feet propped up on supports in front of her.

When 93-year-old Leung was a girl it was too painful for her to walk and she was carried on the back of a maid. For most of her life she could only walk slowly and with difficulty.

Leung is one of Hong Kong's very few remaining "golden lotus" women, who used tight cloth bindings to compress their feet to the tiny size that was once considered both attractive and a sign of breeding.

"My mother told me to start binding my feet when I was nine years old," Leung, who was born in the small town of Xinhua in China's southern Guangdong Province, said through an interpreter.

"I was engaged when I was eight and my husband's family wanted me to have bound feet by the time I married," she said. "It was very painful and often I cried all night and could not sleep, but I could never leave the bandages off."

The exact origins of foot-binding are not known, but the custom may have started late in the Tang Dynasty (618-907 A.D.) when maidens at a local ruler's court were told to bind their feet when dancing on a golden structure shaped like a lotus flower. Golden lotus became a euphemism for bound feet.

The practice was not widespread until after the fourteenth century during the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties. Wealthy families would make their young daughters, whose bones were still soft and pliable,

bind their four small toes back and under the sole of their feet and compress the heel and front of the foot together.

The large toe was left extended to give the foot, clad in dainty and embroidered shoes that were part of the bound feet culture, a sharp, pointed appearance.

The ideal length for a golden lotus was three inches (eight centimetres), though few women could achieve that size.

Leung, whose feet are now unbound, could not remember how large her feet were when bound but said they were much smaller.

Women suffered excruciating pain and often complete immobility for the social status of bound feet, which, as they made it impossible for a woman to work, demonstrated her leisure and affluence.

"My mother said I would be taken for a servant unless I bound my feet," said Leung.

"When my feet were bound I could not walk and was carried about by a maid on her back," she said. "I had nothing to do at home except sewing and embroidery."

The custom also had strong sexual overtones.

Women wore special scarlet shoes in bed at night as the contrast with their skin colour was said to heighten male desire.

"Prostitutes with bound feet — the smaller the better — could ask a higher price," said Elizabeth Sin, an historian at Hong Kong University.

The odour of the feet, which occasionally turned gangrenous, was also said to be erotic.

Leung said she washed her feet every second day and used a powder to absorb the perspiration.

At the turn of the century Western missionaries and liberal

Chinese influenced by Western ideas began to set up "natural foot societies" calling for an end to the custom.

Chinese defenders of the practice said at least it did not damage internal organs as did the tight corsets worn by Western women.

A series of government decrees, after the 1911 revolution that overthrew China's Manchu rulers, outlawed foot-binding.

"The colonial government here in Hong Kong didn't legislate against it because they didn't need to — the social movement against it brought it to an end," said Maria Jaschok, a researcher

of Chinese women's history.

Leung said her husband, whom she married when she was 15, insisted she take off the bandages.

"I was very happy, but my mother-in-law was not. She said no one in her house could have big feet and, anyway, she always thought my feet were not small enough," Leung said.

"It was very painful because my feet were growing in the opposite direction. I had to put my feet to a special solution every day to relieve the pain."

"I don't think bound feet are beautiful."

'Soviet Jewish influx portends a more right-wing Israel'

By Kate Cassa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Up to 3 million Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel within the next decade will reinforce the conservative political trends that brought about the formation of the most right-wing government in the history of the Jewish state, according to demographers experts here. The result, they warn, could be the creation of "another Israel" in the Middle East.

Dr. Fouzi Sahawneh, chairman of the Population Studies Department of the University of Jordan, said in a recent interview that massive Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel could overshadow the diminishing segment of Israeli society which supports a land-for-peace settlement with the Palestinians. Sahawneh pointed out that statistically, Jews from Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union lean politically to the right.

Projections of the number of Soviet Jews immigrating to Israel, since the United States capped its immigration level last year at 40,000 annually, continue to spiral upward. A report from Tel Aviv last week put the number at as many as 12 million, according to former Soviet Jewish dissident Natan Sharansky.

At Jordan University's demography department, one of only two in the Middle East, professors are working with figures that project a possible maximum of 3 million immigrants within the next decade, or as many as 1 million within the next two to three years.

But according to Sahawneh

and his colleague, Dr. Ahmad Hammouda, Arab governments are not yet rising to the challenge that such a massive immigration rate holds for the region. Hammouda predicted that an influx of up to 3 million Jews over the next decade will bolster Israel's expansionist tendencies.

"I think we are facing the creation of another Israel in the Arab World," Hammouda said. "It took 40 years for four-and-a-half million Jews to gather in Palestine. Now we're talking about up to 3 million gathering there in the next three to four, or at the outside, 10 years."

Asked how Arab governments are responding to the issue, Sahawneh said, "I don't think anybody is doing anything, not in the demographics field or any other field, in terms of planning for this eventuality. Maybe the governments are going something that we don't know about, but as far as we can see it's not encouraging."

The professor said he believes Soviet Jewish immigration is only the first step in a long-term Israeli plan to gather more Jews from throughout the world and ultimately expel Palestinians from what is left of their land. However, he said, he does not anticipate an Israeli incursion into Jordanian territory until a second wave of immigrants comes to Israel, perhaps around the turn of the century.

Whatever the time frame, Hammouda feels certain Israel will attempt to expand its borders eventually. "They have already crossed the borders into Lebanon and Syria," he

pointed out, "and they've neutralised Egypt, so the only possibility left is Jordan, which is the weakest part of the fence around Israel."

Another factor in the expansionist equation, Hammouda said, is that Jews have been taught not that Palestine is their land, but that greater Israel is their land — an area that includes everything between the Nile and the Euphrates. "So it's not a matter of 'if,'" Hammouda added, "but 'when'."

The professors predicted that the large influx of Soviet Jews will also galvanise Israel's political right wing.

"Jews from Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and Arab countries tend to vote mostly on the ultra-right," Sahawneh said, "and I think this is what brought the Likud to power." He pointed out that a major political shift occurred in Israel during the mid-1970s when the migration of Eastern Jews began to surpass those coming from the west.

"Therefore," Sahawneh continued, "you can now expect that the influence of the West and Western-educated people will become less. I think we can expect to see less (Shimoo) Peres and (Abba) Eban-types and more (Yitzhak) Shamir-types in Israel."

According to Sahawneh and Hammouda, although many Eastern Jews come from societies in which they themselves were repressed or forbidden human and civil rights, they are disinclined to support Palestinian rights because hatred for the indigenous population of Palestine is "imprinted" in their minds even

before they arrive in Israel. Said Sahawneh: "Although the majority of the immigrants to Israel now come from the East, the East is not one but many cultures. So there is nothing in common between those people except one thing: that they are being told 'this is your promised land. This is the land where you will live the rest of your lives. This is your ancestral home. And those Palestinians are threatening us. This is our land.' So they can all unite around a common cause which is: 'It's us or them'."

Although immigration has been a central pillar of Zionism since the foundation of the movement, Sahawneh and Hammouda predict the massive influx of Soviet Jewry will be a mixed blessing for Israel. On the beneficial side for Israel, Sahawneh said, the incoming Soviets will provide an easily manageable, easily trainable labour force.

A large percentage of the Soviet Jews are expected to be between the ages of 15 and 65. Only about 25 per cent are age



Al-Hayyat



ENJOY Al-Hayyat the healthy refreshing drink from Karoline



UNIQUE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

A Jordanian female teacher with the following qualifications is wanted on a full-time basis to help young children with their school work and extra-curricular activities:

- 1 - University degree, preferably in Education.
- 2 - Fluency in Arabic and English.
- 3 - Exposure to different cultures through living/studying abroad.
- 4 - Experience and good interaction with children.
- 5 - A dynamic, energetic, cheerful and sports-oriented personality.

Kindly send resume and a recent photograph to:

P.O. Box 7111
Amman, Jordan

THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT FORWARDING, DOOR-to-DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND, RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
TEL 604676 604596
P.O. BOX 7806
AMMAN

CROWN INT'L EST.
packing, shipping, forwarding, storing, clearing, door-to-door service

Agenzia all over the world
Tel: 654000, Fax: 669522
Tlx: 22285 BESEMCO JO
P.O. Box 825457
AMMAN-JORDAN

EASTERN
PACKING, FORWARDING, AIR & SEA FREIGHT FORWARDING

TEL: 621 775 FAX: 656 270
Tlx: 23 0 23 POB: 815 408
AMMAN-JORDAN

UNIVERSAL SPECIALISED SERVICES EST.
Specialists in Packing Air & Sea freight forwarding
Storage & Insurance
House & hold effects insured by Jordan French Insurance Co.
Valuables, Commodities

Please call Tel: 610641
P.O. Box 8408 Amman.
1st Circle Jabel Amman

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO RENT IN WEST AMMAN
CALL SOHA AT
Saudi Real Estate 687821/22

Here Now
The Minaret REAL ESTATE
real estate corp.
Just Call Us
Sales Dept. 833479
Rental Dept. 833478

Marlboro

BP TROPHY JORDAN CROSS COUNTRY RAID
26-27 July, 1990

KOFOO

STUDIO HAIR
Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service
Dye your colour. Slim at our shop and get it.

JUMBO photo size 30% larger
Free enlarging
Size 20 x 30 cm

Shameem - Opp. Ghindays
Bank. Phone: 304042
Service: 662281

Special Executive Luncheons
Take away service available

Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm

After the Philadelphia Hotel
Towards 3rd circle

Tel: 659519 659520

Admiral
Home Appliances
duty Free is available
• Freezers
• Refrigerators
• Washers• Gas Ranges

Wafa Dajani & Sons Co.

Maktab Street - Tel: 824658

Special Prices

1st Circle, Jabel Amman, near Ahliyah Girls School

Take-away service

Open daily 12:00-3:30

6:30-Midnight

Tel: 636998

Specialty

Lewis loses to Burrell in 100 metres

Goodwill Games marred by brawl on basketball court, Soviet defection

SEATTLE (AP) — Leroy Burrell beat Carl Lewis in the 100 metres in a day of confrontation at the Goodwill Games, where ill will ruled on the basketball court.

While the United States' star shone brightly in the swimming pool with a third gold medal for Janet Evans and a rare victory over East Germany in a women's relay, a couple of basketball stars blew out in a flurry of fists and angry words Monday.

The Americans beat Puerto Rico 100-94 in their opening game, but only after Alonso Mourning of the U.S. team and Jose Ortiz of Puerto Rico fought to a rather inarticulate tie.

Both were ejected for fistfighting in the first half as the United States began its quest for another sort of vengeance.

The Americans face the Soviets on Tuesday night, the team that beat America and won the gold medal in the 1988 Seoul Olympics. They have not met since at this level.

Track and field

While the basketball players were squaring off with their fists, Americans Burrell and Lewis set their score in a more sporting fashion. Burrell won the gold medal in 10.05 seconds. Lewis was second in 10.08.

Lewis, 29, the world record-holder, had beaten Burrell, the top sprinter in the world this year, all five times they met

previously, but they hadn't met this year.

"Leroy was sharper and he did what he had to do," Lewis said. "I'm still at it, and we'll be back. This should give America a great 1-2 punch for a long time."

Lewis broke in the lead, but Burrell strode smoothly ahead of Lewis about halfway through the race and held on for the victory.

"I didn't get my characteristic start, but I felt I would be in it," said Burrell, whose 9.94 earlier this year was only .02 off Lewis' world record. "I'm excited, I'm more excited because I was able to adjust to all the pressure."

Jackie Joyner-Kersee hoped to break her world record of 7,291 points in the heptathlon, perhaps even become the first woman to break the 7,300 mark in this seven-event test. But two poor performances Sunday dashed those hopes.

Still, she easily repeated her 1986 Goodwill Games victory with 6,783 points.

Basketball

Mourning, of Georgetown, hit a free throw with 8:01 left in the first half and, as the ball went through the net, Ortiz and Mark Randall of Kansas hit the floor. Mourning, 6-foot-9, walked off

the line and said something to Ortiz, 6-11. Ortiz slapped at Mourning, who swung wildly in retaliation. When Ramon Rivas of Puerto Rico missed a sucker punch from behind Mourning, both beaches emptied.

"I was trying to get position and slipped after I was nudged," Randall said. "The next thing I knew, guys were flying over me. I think Alonso was just trying to protect his teammates."

Referees restored order and ejected Mourning and Ortiz.

Billy Owens scored 34 points for the Americans, who trailed by 10 points before the fight and led by as many as 12 in the second half.

Swimming

Evans, who won three swimming gold medals in Seoul, won her third of these games when she captured the 1,500-metre freestyle in the second-fastest time ever, and 17-year-old Summer Sanders captured her second gold, stamping herself as a swimmer to watch at the Barcelona Olympics in two years.

But the most startling performance of the meet was turned in by the U.S. women's 400-metre medley relay team, which set an American record and beat the East Germans for the first time since 1978.

The U.S. 400-metre medley relay team of Betsy Mitchell, Tracey McFarlane, Janel Jorgenson and Nicole Haislett set an

American record of 4:06.94 in winning the gold medal. The old record was 4:07.75.

The U.S. 'B' team was second, with the East Germans third. No U.S. women's team had beaten an East German relay team since the 1978 World Championships.

Evans' time in the 1,500 was 15 minutes, 54.23 seconds. It was 2.13 seconds off the world record she set two years ago in Orlando, Florida, the last time she swam the distance.

She finished nearly 18 seconds ahead of second-place Haley Lewis of Australia.

"I knew pretty much in this race I was going to have to swim against the clock," Evans said.

Sanders, who will be Evans' teammate at Stanford this fall, added a victory in the women's 200-metre individual medley to the gold medal she won in the 400 medley two days ago in beating Evans.

"I would rather not comment on that," Red Wings Assistant General Manager Nick Polano said when asked Tuesday about Fedorov joining the team.

WDIV-TV in Detroit reported that Fedorov either was in Detroit or on his way here late Monday. The station, quoting unidentified sources in Seattle and Detroit, said Red Wings officials were talking with Fedorov about joining the NHL club.

Korolev said he was willing to talk with the Red Wings about Fedorov but wanted him to rejoin the Soviet national team at the Goodwill Games.

"We are willing to have negotiations with Detroit if the player is returned," he said. "If the player is not returned, there is nothing to discuss. We are talking

The Red Wings picked Fedorov in round 4 of the 1989 National Hockey League entry draft.

Fedorov appeared upset after earning a gross misconduct penalty in Sunday's game and left a team dinner early, said the official, who spoke on the condition he not be identified.

Fedorov never showed up at his hotel room and didn't travel with the Soviet team to Kennewick, Washington, Monday, the official said.

"We don't have any ill feelings toward the player," said Yuri Korolev, vice president of the Soviet Ice Hockey Federation.

Sanders, who will be Evans' teammate at Stanford this fall, added a victory in the women's 200-metre individual medley to the gold medal she won in the 400 medley two days ago in beating Evans.

"I would rather not comment on that," Red Wings Assistant General Manager Nick Polano said when asked Tuesday about Fedorov joining the team.

WDIV-TV in Detroit reported that Fedorov either was in Detroit or on his way here late Monday. The station, quoting unidentified sources in Seattle and Detroit, said Red Wings officials were talking with Fedorov about joining the NHL club.

Korolev said he was willing to talk with the Red Wings about Fedorov but wanted him to rejoin the Soviet national team at the Goodwill Games.

"We are willing to have negotiations with Detroit if the player is returned," he said. "If the player is not returned, there is nothing to discuss. We are talking

MEDAL TABLE

	G	S	B	Tot
United States	25	27	17	69
Soviet Union	20	23	16	59
East Germany	8	4	16	28
West Germany	3	2	3	8
Netherlands	1	1	4	6
China	1	2	2	5
Spain	2	2	0	4
Italy	1	2	1	4
Hungary	1	1	1	3
Australia	0	2	1	3
Cuba	2	0	0	2
Poland	1	0	1	2
Canada	0	1	1	2
Romania	0	1	0	1
Czechoslovakia	1	0	0	1
Denmark	1	0	0	1
Jamaica	1	0	0	1
Mexico	1	0	0	1
Surinam	1	0	0	1
Ethiopia	0	1	0	1
Kenya	0	1	0	1
Britain	0	0	1	1
Brazil	0	0	1	1
Ireland	0	0	1	1

about the Goodwill Games and there has been no good will."

The Soviet sports system allows hockey players to join NHL clubs once they reach age 28, Korolev said.

TBS could lose \$26m

Turner said Monday that Turner Broadcasting System Inc. could lose as much as \$26 million on the Goodwill Games — doubling earlier projections from the company.

Asked if losses this summer would equal the \$26 million shortfall from the 1986 Goodwill Games in Moscow, the TBS board chairman said the deficit would be "in that range."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JULY 25, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A "beautiful day and evening for you to become renewed in the spirit of achieving the right pathway toward success, right-action and happiness. Keep expecting the best possible results.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Your own personal progress can be greatly expedited today if you approach your activities from a new slant and then avoid making material commitments.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You need to become imbued anew with your aspirations and plan to make them work with more secrecy if you are to succeed in obtaining them.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be on the lookout for new friends and acquaintances now for it is through them you can make your swiftest progress and don't fear over a private concern.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Consider well just how you want to be regarded by bigwigs and the general public and make plans to gain this, avoid an egotistical friend.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A great day to get out communing for those at a distance and in which your best judgment should be utilized to your advantage.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Money and business matters should occupy your attention today so look for ways to add to your holdings and put them in effect at one.

advanced formulas are available for you to operate more prosperously with those who can aid your practical progress.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Be on the qui vive for some excellent suggestions from impulsive and mentally aware individuals for more advancement in world of outside activity.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A day to look into whatever printed material is at your fingertips to uncover better ways to handle your routine activities.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A jovial person will be willing to go along with a plan you have for enjoying yourself and your recreations more thoroughly so listen to him/her.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Rely more upon your own judgment what course is best to pursue at your home so that everyone there is more contented and happy.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A great day to get out communing for those at a distance and in which your best judgment should be utilized to your advantage.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Money and business matters should occupy your attention today so look for ways to add to your holdings and put them in effect at one.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



HARRIS

JUMBLE

IN THIS SCRABBLE WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GUNTS

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EMYTH

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

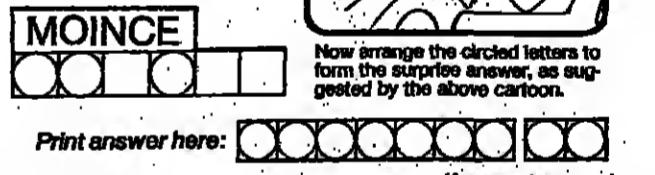
ANNOYE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MOINCE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.



WHY NOT JOIN US IF YOU'RE...

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: SKUNK

Answer: Back in the Navy—STERN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: SKUNK

Answer: Back in the Navy—STERN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: SKUNK

Answer: Back in the Navy—STERN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: SKUNK

Answer: Back in the Navy—STERN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: SKUNK

Answer: Back in the Navy—STERN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

<p

Israel cuts food subsidies to fund more settlements

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli government slashed subsidies on basic foods Tuesday in a search for extra funds to finance the settlement of thousands of Soviet Jewish immigrants.

The cuts on a number of food items, part of a \$200 million reduction in the spending plans contained in the last budget, raised bread prices 30 per cent and the cost of chicken by six per cent.

The changes, which will save the government \$40 million a year, angered representatives of the hundreds of Israelis who have set up tent communities around the country to protest rising rents.

"They took away our houses, now they are taking away our food," a homeless person in Tel Aviv complained to one newspaper.

Homeless in the northern city of Haifa, a centre of Soviet Jewish settlement, declared a hunger strike in protest against the price rises.

The Israeli cabinet, in an unusually strong criticism of a government decision, said the cut in subsidies would fuel inflation and did not solve the need for an overhaul of the budget.

The subsidies cut is another patch on the budget, and is contrary to the government's promise not to increase prices by more than 10 per cent in 1990," the Bank of Israel said.

The government, cutting its budget 1.7 per cent, also said it would end a tax deduction for the second child in high-income families and would make El Al, Israel's national airline, pay for its own security.

Further cuts are expected soon, including subsidies on milk, eggs and transport. Economists said the higher prices would eventually percolate through the economy to cause price rises for many other goods.

The government cuts are aimed at financing the absorption of a wave of Soviet immigrants. Some 70,000 have arrived so far in 1990 and 150,000 are expected by the end of the year.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Yemen unifies prices of oil products

SANA (R) — The Yemeni government has decided to unify the prices of consumer oil products throughout the newly established republic. Sanaa radio has said. The decision was taken at an extraordinary cabinet meeting called to discuss unification of prices of various commodities since the merger in May of North and South Yemen. Prices of oil products have been relatively high in the southern part of the country compared with those in the north. Prices of dairy and other food products were doubled in Aida district last month, prompting street protests in some parts of the city. Trade unions in Aida, which was the capital of socialist South Yemen, have threatened to strike over the price hikes.

S. Arabia reports new oil discovery

RIYADH (AP) — Oil Minister Hisham Nazer has announced the sixth discovery of an oil field in 13 months in the previously uncharted central regions of the desert kingdom. Saudi Arabia already sits on a quarter of the world's proven oil reserves. Its main oil-producing zones are in the eastern provinces bordering the Gulf. In a statement distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency, Nazer said the first well drilled in the new field, Hazmeh-1, struck sulphur-free oil and condensates. He gave the location of the well as 250 kilometres south of the capital Riyadh and nine kilometres south of Hawtah-1, the first oil discovery by Saudi Aramco in the central regions in June 1989. The six oil-bearing zones were located at depths between 6,000 and 7,000 feet and contain large reserves of high-grade oil and gas, the minister said. No figures have been released on reserves in the new fields. Saudi Aramco, the kingdom's giant oil-producing company, was able to tap the oil prospects of the central regions after acquiring ultra-sophisticated computers from the United States. Until then the region had been considered barren of oil.

Turkey raises minimum wages by 84%

ANKARA (R) — Turkey Tuesday raised minimum monthly wages for agricultural and industrial workers by 84 per cent to 414,000 lira (\$155) from 225,000 lira (\$84). The rise, reported by the Anatolian News Agency, is to offset annual inflation of 62.6 per cent at the end of June. It will be effective from Aug. 1. The government gave 25 per cent semi-annual salary rises to civil servants in July, sparking demonstrations by employees who expected more.

Iran announces higher tea crop

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian farmers sold 120,000 tonnes of green tea to the government by the end of the spring harvest, 15,000 tonnes more than last year, the Iranian news agency IRNA has said. Iran imports about a third of its tea. In 1987, its tea crop grew in 36,000 hectares (89,000 acres) in the Caspian coast province of Gilan and Mazandaran yielded 45,000 tonnes of dried tea.

GIB reports rise in net profit

BAHRAIN (R) — Gulf International Bank (GIB), the second-biggest offshore bank in Bahrain, has said its net profit for the first half of 1990 rose to \$32.5 million. GIB recorded a loss of \$692.5 million for the whole of 1989 after setting aside \$725 million in provisions for LDC (less developed country) debt in a bid to rid itself of the problem completely. The bank said in a statement that operating income rose to \$58.35 million in the first six months of 1990 from \$54.77 during first-half 1989. Expenses fell to \$25.47 million from \$25.53 million. Assets edged up to \$9.9 billion on June 30, 1990, from \$9.6 billion at the middle of the previous year. In line with its formal policy, GIB did not give figures for provisions. The bank is owned by the governments of Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, July 24, 1990
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	662.0	666.0
Pound Sterling	1205.4	1212.6
Deutschmark	407.1	408.4
Swiss franc	477.5	480.4

French franc 121.4 122.1

Japanese yen (for 100) 445.3 448.0

Dutch guilder 361.2 363.4

Swedish krona 112.0 112.7

Italian lira (for 100) 55.7 56.7

Belgian franc (for 10) 197.5 198.7

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.8225/35	U.S. dollar	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1560/70	Deutschmarks	Dutch guilders
	1.6245/50	Swiss francs	Belgian francs
	1.8305/15	French francs	Italian lire
	1.3820/30	Japanese yen	Swedish kronas
33.41/46	5.4460/4510	Norwegian kronas	Danish kronas
1188/1189	148.40/50		U.S. dollars
5.9050/9100	6.2525/75		
6.1850/1900	6.1850/1900		
One ounce of gold	368.10/60		

Cinema Tel: 625155
RAINBOW

DEADLY PURSUIT

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

CONCORD

Tel: 677420

Dureid Lahham /
Madeleine Tabar
in
KAFROUN

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Iraqi troop report boosts oil prices close to \$20

GENEVA (R) — Oil prices shot up Tuesday on news that Iraq moved troops near Kuwait's frontier in what Western diplomats in the Gulf said might be a scare tactic ahead of OPEC talks this week in Geneva.

The diplomats said Iraq deployed two armoured divisions near the disputed frontier. Kuwait, like its neighbour and ally Saudi Arabia, has advocated a moderate pricing system within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

OPEC delegates in Geneva said Iraq seemed to be using strong-arm tactics in support of a more hawkish policy to throttle OPEC supply and drive up the cost of a barrel of oil to \$25.

London September futures for the world benchmark crude, Brent blend from the North Sea, gained almost 50 cents per barrel on the Iraq report and at 1000 GMT was \$19.60 a barrel.

But many of the report's comments clearly apply as well to the effect of this year's conflict in OPEC.

"Instability in the world oil market and prices has greatly affected the economies of producers especially Arab countries," said the report obtained by

Report shows effects of low oil prices on Arab countries

ABU DHABI (R) — Low oil prices hurt the people of all Arab states, and, in a seeming paradox, hit those in non-oil producing countries hardest, according to an Arab League economic report to be published this week.

Despite efforts to diversify, "oil revenues remained the main sources of hard currency for oil and non-oil Arab states," the 21-member Arab League said in its annual economic report for 1989.

Figures in the report reflect not this year's fall in oil prices but a previous glut in 1988, when oil sold for \$14 a barrel and the combined gross domestic product of the Arab states shrank eight per cent.

But many of the report's comments clearly apply as well to the effect of this year's conflict in OPEC.

"Earlier threats by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein of unspecified retaliation against Kuwait and other Arab states which violated OPEC-mandated oil production quotas, depressing prices, had fuelled a two-week rally in the oil market.

The spot market average is up from around \$14 to around \$16.50 because traders think Iraqi tactics will compel allegiance to a new OPEC quota part to be negotiated at a ministerial conference starting in Geneva Thursday.

Delegates said that, at present, officials of the 13-nation OPEC, marking its 30th anniversary next month, still hoped the conference could proceed despite the new rally in tension between two founder members.

Draft proposals would have

OPEC limit its total output of crude oil to just under 22.5 million barrels daily.

This would be down by one million from the average during the first six months of 1990, a period marked by rampant quota-busting, a glut and depressed

oil prices.

Iraq, desperate for cash to rebuild an economy shattered by the 1980-88 Gulf war with Iran, says the quota violations were tantamount to aggression and were part of a U.S. plot.

OPEC's Algerian president, Sadek Boussena, has said there is already a broad consensus on the idea of an OPEC output ceiling at around 22.5 million barrels.

But other delegates said OPEC is more divided on how long to apply it. This is crucial for prices. The longer OPEC throttles supply at this level the higher they will go as refiners drain off the West's surplus stocks.

"That is not an innocent question," said Boussena, sidestepping a reporter's inquiry as to whether the new ceiling would apply until October or run until December.

Iraq has said it wants supply throttled until average prices hit \$25.

But bankers and diplomats in the Gulf put the total at around \$80 billion. About \$50 billion was owed to non-Arab states and banks, mainly in export credits, they said.

Iraq doesn't intend to pay one dollar back and the Arab states don't expect to see the money again... but if they write it off it will affect the international evaluation of all the countries involved," said another.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

"If the Arab aid was written off it would improve the debt profile of Iraq — it is undoubtedly one reason for its attack on Kuwait and the UAE," a senior Arab banker said.

"Iraq doesn't intend to pay one dollar back and the Arab states don't expect to see the money again... but if they write it off it will affect the international evaluation of all the countries involved," said another.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

"The bitter fact which every Arab should know is that the basic part of the aid is still registered as a credit to Iraq... with a

fraternal spirit we asked them

more than a year ago to write off this credit, but they evaded the issue," he said.

But bankers and diplomats in the Gulf put the total at around \$80 billion. About \$50 billion was owed to non-Arab states and banks, mainly in export credits, they said.

"The bitter fact which every Arab should know is that the basic part of the aid is still registered as a credit to Iraq... with a

fraternal spirit we asked them

more than a year ago to write off this credit, but they evaded the issue," he said.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

"The bitter fact which every Arab should know is that the basic part of the aid is still registered as a credit to Iraq... with a

fraternal spirit we asked them

more than a year ago to write off this credit, but they evaded the issue," he said.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

"The bitter fact which every Arab should know is that the basic part of the aid is still registered as a credit to Iraq... with a

fraternal spirit we asked them

more than a year ago to write off this credit, but they evaded the issue," he said.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

"The bitter fact which every Arab should know is that the basic part of the aid is still registered as a credit to Iraq... with a

fraternal spirit we asked them

more than a year ago to write off this credit, but they evaded the issue," he said.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

"The bitter fact which every Arab should know is that the basic part of the aid is still registered as a credit to Iraq... with a

fraternal spirit we asked them

more than a year ago to write off this credit, but they evaded the issue," he said.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

"The bitter fact which every Arab should know is that the basic part of the aid is still registered as a credit to Iraq... with a

fraternal spirit we asked them

more than a year ago to write off this credit, but they evaded the issue," he said.

In a message to its Arab aid donors — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — to write off an estimated \$30 billion of interest-free loans in order to improve its international credit rating, they said.

Warring East German coalition partners agree to new talks

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's warring coalition partners agreed Tuesday to new negotiations on the fine print of unification, but their row looks like running all summer and could jeopardize unity elections due on Dec. 2.

The rebel Social Democrats (SPD) and Liberals agreed to resume talks with Christian Democrat (CDU) Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere who is on holiday in Austria, for emergency talks Thursday.

The cautious East German premier, with the certain support of just under half the 400 deputies in parliament, indicated he would continue to govern even without the SPD and Liberals.

"But then the Volkskammer (parliament) would restrict itself to decisions vital for German unity. Each deputy would have to deliberate for himself whether to vote against unity," de Maiziere said in a clear warning to the coalition rebels.

De Maiziere appears to have won the upper hand in a dispute for which many commentators have no sympathy.

Khmer Rouge asks for continued support, role in future government

BANGKOK (AP) — Cambodia's Khmer Rouge guerrillas, in their first reaction to a U.S. policy shift, said Tuesday they must have a role in a political settlement of the war and asked for help from Asian countries.

The widespread backing for the Cambodian guerrilla coalition's United Nations seat has ensured that the U.N. charter and international law "prevail over the law of the jungle and the use of force," Khmer Rouge leader Khou Samphan said in a statement over the guerrilla radio.

It was the first Khmer Rouge reaction to the U.S. decision, announced last Wednesday, to withdraw its recognition of the U.N. seat.

The United States, citing its opposition to the Khmer Rouge, said it will instead open talks with Vietnam on ending the Cambodian war.

The Communist Khmer Rouge is militarily the strongest mem-

ber of the coalition that includes the non-Communist forces of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and of Son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation Front. The guerrillas are fighting the government that Vietnam installed after invading Cambodia in late 1978.

From April 1975 until the invasion ousted them from power, the Khmer Rouge killed hundreds of thousands of people in trying to turn the country into a system of primitive agrarian communes.

Khou Samphan said in the

broadcast that the key issues were a verified Vietnamese troop pullout, a comprehensive role for the United Nations in a settlement, and the participation of all four Cambodian factions in the settlement.

Vietnam withdrew all its troops last September, but the guerrillas say some Vietnamese troops remain.

"Only with the participation of

all four parties can there be genuine national reconciliation and we can correctly implement international law and the U.N. Charter which says that the people of each country have the right to decide their own destiny," Khou Samphan said.

He said Cambodians appreciated the help given by the people and governments in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other countries.

Monday, as they prepared for their annual meeting, ASEAN members urged that no change be made in the U.N. seat now held for Cambodia by the guerrilla coalition.

The Cambodian people also

ask them to continue providing steadfast assistance and support until the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia is comprehensively settled in conformity with the spirit and principle of the U.N. Charter," he said.

Refugee officials say Malaysia in the past year has rebuffed at least 8,700 boat people considered economic, not political, refugees. The officials fear other countries in the region will follow suit.

ASEAN, supported by Australia and Britain, on behalf of Hong Kong, has urged the immediate mandatory repatriation of boat people found to be leaving their countries for economic rather than political reasons.

Left-wing newspapers have charged that the new agreement will turn Crete into an American super-fortress in the east Mediterranean — retaining a major air force base and naval communications station on the island.

The accord, signed by the two governments on July 8, closes two mainland bases — Hellenikon Air Base at Athens Airport and Nea Makri Naval Communications Station east of the capital.

The agreement replaces the previous five-year accord which expired in December 1988. The bases have operated since under a grace period and as the accord is not a full treaty, it can take effect without U.S. Senate approval.

Mitsotakis told parliament only 500 U.S. military personnel would be transferred from the mainland to Crete and there would be no new buildings at the island bases.

In return for the agreement, the U.S. government pledged to seek \$345 million in free military aid for Greece in 1991, the same level as 1990, and promised a billion-dollar package of fighter planes and naval destroyers.

The pact will cut U.S. forces by about half, from 4,000 at present.

It keeps the U.S. air base at Iraklion — a main east Mediterranean communications centre — and the U.S. naval base at Souda Bay.

Washington and Hanoi object to forced repatriation.

Communists head for landslide victory in Mongolian elections

ULAN BATOR, Mongolia (AP) — Communist Party candidates fighting to extend 70 years of rule defeated most of the opposition slate in the initial round of Mongolia's first multi-party election, the government said Monday.

Preliminary results from Sunday's primary showed only 96 of the five opposition parties' 300 candidates were elected, Prime Minister Sharavyn Gunjaadorg said.

Communist Party Chairman Gombajayn Ochirbat, also a candidate for the national legislature, said he survived the first round, winning more than 2,550 out of 4,991 votes cast in his constituency, the Ulan Bator district.

More than 1,300 votes went to the district's second-place finisher, a candidate from the pro-privatization National Progress Party. He will oppose Ochirbat in the second round of voting next Sunday.

Final results from the primaries were expected later Monday.

Gunjaadorg maintained that the expected Communist victory would not mean the end of Mongolia's dramatic transformation since December from an authoritarian, one-party state obedient to Moscow to a multi-party nation eager for Western contact and investment.

The election process so far "is a comparatively free and fair one," Gunjaadorg told a news conference.

"Of course, since we are exercising this kind of election for the first time there are some shortcomings and some bumps," he said.

should accede to Bonn just before or just after the poll — has escalated, threatening to upset the tight schedule for German unity by December.

Clearly alarmed, de Maiziere has agreed to meet Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is on holiday in Austria, for emergency talks Thursday.

The SPD and Liberals agreed to resume talks with Christian Democrat (CDU) Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere who is on holiday in Austria, for emergency talks Thursday.

The SPD said it would leave

the government if a joint East-West German parliamentary committee did not show signs of compromise at its first meeting Thursday.

"The compromise we want is for the CDU to give up its position," SPD Foreign Minister Markus Meckel said.

The apparently trivial dispute — over how to hold pan-German elections and whether East Berlin

people have had their fill of crises, parliament is persisting with its storm in a teacup," the daily *Bauern-Echo* newspaper said. "Party political manoeuvring is getting the better of patriotic feeling."

The SPD and Liberals want accession on Dec. 1 to be declared immediately, with a single electoral system for the pan-German poll. They say this is the quickest way to tackle East Germany's crippling economic problems.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured into the streets Monday to assess the situation was pinned down by gunfire and forced to spend the night in a colleague's house some distance away, he said.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Monday Bonn may have to reduce the notice period legally required for a general election from three months to two to allow more time for debate.

He added that West Germany's proportional electoral system, including a five per cent voting threshold for entry into parliament, might have to be reworked.

One Western ambassador who ventured